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REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 14 and 19 have been amended in this response. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13-17 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,445,729 to Monroe et al. ("Monroe" hereinafter).

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10 and 12-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,436,283 to Duke ("Duke" hereinafter).

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duke in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,428,694 to Brown.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either one of Monroe or Duke in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,484,538 to Woodward.

Objection to Drawings

The Examiner has set forth an objection to the drawings for failure to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5), reference sign 36 (paragraph 0017) absent from the drawings. As set forth above, Applicant has included a replacement sheet for Figure 1. Figure 1 now includes reference sign 36 and is now in compliance with § 1.84(p)(5). Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Objection to Specification

The Examiner objects to the lack of antecedent basis in the specification for the subject matter of claim 7 and objects to some minor informalities in regard to claims 1 and 14. As set forth above, Applicant has amended the specification and claims 1 and 14 in a manner to now

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obviate these objections. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of these objections.

102 Rejection based on Monroe

Monroe

The Office Action states the Monroe discloses the elements and features of claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13-17 and 19-21. Monroe relates to a reverse osmosis (RO) unit that uses a membranes permitting operation at abnormally low water pressures. The RO unit of Monroe includes a storage bag, pumps, filters, UV sterilizer and membrane, all of which are packaged in a cylindrically shaped housing. The Monroe RO unit is suitably deployed on a household counter top while flow-connected to normal household plumbing.

Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim. Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick, Co., 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

As set forth above, Applicant has amended claims 1, 14 and 19 to include further features such as the retrieval of unpurified water and a time delay mechanism that delays activation of the water purification system. The time delay feature of the present invention ensures the UV chamber 36 is fully operable before supplying a steady stream of unpurified water through the system. Monroe fails to disclose or discuss such features as now recited in amended independent claims 1, 14 and 19. In contrast to the present invention, the Monroe RO unit functions as a purified water reservoir for use in a household setting where the RO unit functions as a subsequent purification step for household tap water or for emergency purposes during a power outage. Monroe, however, lacks disclosure of a time delay mechanism or the retrieval of unpurified water supplied in a continuous flow through the RO unit. Accordingly, since Monroe

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lacks description or disclosure for each and every element of the Applicant's claimed invention, therefore, Monroe simply does not anticipate claims 1, 14 and 19. Monroe also fails to anticipate the remaining dependant claims, since these claims depend from the now allowable claims 1, 14 and 19. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

102 Rejection based on Duke

The Office Action states that Duke discloses the elements and features of claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10 and 12-21. Duke relates to a self-contained portable rain water collecting and purifying system for collecting, filtering and disinfecting rain water or other precipitation primarily for drinking purposes. Duke discusses a purifying system that is characterized by a housing that contains the system components. The Duke system components include a battery operated pump, particle filters and a UV light sterilizer. The Duke system also discloses an embodiment that includes solar panels that collect solar energy in order to energize the pump and UV sterilizer.

Again, as set forth above, Applicant has amended claims 1, 14 and 19 to include further features such as the retrieval of purified water and a time delay mechanism that delays activation of the water purification system of the present invention. In contrast to the Duke system, the present invention also includes a time delay feature along with the continuous supply of unpurified water typically from a fresh water body such as a lake or river. The Duke system seeks to purify rain water that may accumulate in a gutter or similar structure. The Duke system lacks the disclosure of a time delay mechanism or the retrieval of unpurified water supplied in a continuous flow through the system. Accordingly, since Duke lacks description or disclosure of each and every element of the Applicant's claimed invention, therefore, Duke simply does not anticipate claims 1, 14 and 19. Duke also fails to anticipate the remaining dependent claims

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since these claims depend from the now amended claims 1, 14 and 19. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

103 Rejection based on Duke and Brown

As stated above, Duke fails to disclose each and every feature as now recited in amended claims 1, 14 and 19. In the Office Action, reference is made to Brown for disclosure of a solar powered water treatment unit that includes a solar power source with dual receptacles. The Office Action states that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Duke in order to include the receptacles as disclosed in Brown in order to achieve the subject matter of claim 8.

To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (C.C.P.A. 1974). Brown relates to a device for environmental remediation that utilizes non-traditional energy sources and programmable logic controllers for environmental remediation. Initially, Applicant respectfully submits that Brown apparently does not relate to or discuss water purification techniques. As Brown states, Brown is essentially directed toward environmental remediation in order to address ground water and soil contamination that might exist. Brown, therefore, discusses non-analogous art that one skilled in the art would not look to in order to solve problems related to water purification in a sense that is recited in the claims of the present invention. Furthermore, Brown fails to address the deficiencies associated with Duke as discussed above. Brown specifically fails to disclose a time delay mechanism or the retrieval of unpurified water as now recited in amended claims 1, 14 and 19. Accordingly, the combination of Duke and Brown either individually or in combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every element of the amended claims 1, 14 and 19. The combination of Duke and Brown

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also fails to disclose each and every element of the dependent claim 8, since claim 8 depends from amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection based on the foregoing.

103 Rejection based on Monroe or Duke, and Woodward

The Office Action states that claim 11 is rejected as being obvious either due to the combination of Monroe and Woodward or Duke and Woodward. The Office Action specifically states that Monroe or Duke discloses all the limitations of Applicant's claimed invention and cites to Woodward for disclosing a malfunction indicator for the UV light. The system discussed in Woodward relates to a compact, portable, multiply service apparatus and method for purifying and disinfecting water from potable or non-potable water sources. As stated above, neither Monroe nor Duke discloses all the limitations of the present invention as set forth in the amended claims 1, 14 and 19. Furthermore, Woodward fails to address the deficiencies associated with Monroe and Duke. Woodward specifically fails to discuss or disclose a time delay mechanism or a continuous flow of unpurified water through a system as now recited in amended claims 1, 14 and 19. The combination of Monroe or Duke with Woodward, therefore, fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every element of Applicant's claimed invention and, therefore, the combination cannot support this obviousness rejection under 103. Claim 11 depends from amended claim 1 and, accordingly, stands allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Monroe or Duke in view of Woodward does not render claim 11 obvious. Accordingly, based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

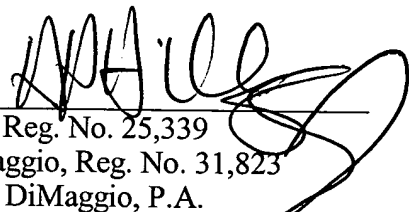
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CONCLUSION

Based upon the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of all pending claims is therefore requested.

Any additional charges, including extension of time, please bill our Account No. 13-1130.

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet which includes Figure 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet